

Application No. 10/600,837
Amendment dated May 14, 2007
Reply to Office Action of February 14, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested. Upon entry of this response, claims 1-5 and 7-19 will be pending.

A. Rejection of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116]. Applicants have reviewed all the art of record and respectfully submit that the current invention is patentably distinguishable from Lofton and also submit that Lofton does not anticipate the claims of the current invention. In the Examiner Krisna Lim's interview with the Applicant Esmail Sadeghi on April 5, 2007, it was made clear that the current invention is distinguishable from Lofton's application and that Applicants make an effort to show how they are distinguishable from each other. Applicants will demonstrate that Lofton's application "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SCHEDULING EVENTS ON AN INTERNET BASED CALENDAR" teaches a system and a method for an internet-based calendar that allows members to create and maintain own calendar and post events to own as well as other members' calendars and therefore it is user-centric since all activities are gathered around members' personal calendars and members receive notifications from application (the application actively notifies users of different events); and does not anticipate the claims of the present invention which describes a

passive, user-active, event-centric system and method where the application is passive and members actively specify only their own involvement in the events of a club and not other members' involvement, and the events themselves are the center of all attention, not members..

Claims 1-9 are rejected based on 35 U.S.C. 102(e) that states:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in - (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for the purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Applicants respectfully submit that the current invention has not been described in an application for patent, specifically Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] (cited by the Examiner). It has been well established that "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Applicants respectfully submit that Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] (cited by the Examiner) does not anticipate the claims of the current invention since it does not teach the claims of the current invention. Applicants also respectfully submit that Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] (cited by the Examiner) does not teach every element of the claims of the current invention.

A-1. The current invention teaches a "passive, user-active, event-centric" application:

Independent claim 1 of the current invention recites:

A system for web-based, **passive, user-active, event-centric** (emphasis added)
application comprising:

a database and an application on a web server,

wherein the database is a repository of information on a) a club, b) an event for
the club, c) a member attribute for a member of the club, wherein the event is
managed by the member;

means for accessing the information on the event, (emphasis added) the access
being limited to the member; and

means for updating the information on the event by the member;

wherein **the application not involving monitoring the information for the
event** (emphasis added).

Independent claim 5 of the current invention recites:

A method for **web-based, passive, user-active**, (emphasis added) event-centric
application comprising:

creating a database on a web server wherein the database is a repository of information on a) a club, b) an event for the club, and c) a member attribute for a member of the club, **wherein the event is managed by the member;**
(emphasis added)

accessing the information on the event, (emphasis added) wherein the access is limited to the member; and

updating the information on the event by the member; (emphasis added)

wherein the application not involving monitoring the information for the event. (emphasis added)

Claim 1 of the current invention teaches a system and claim 5 of the current invention teaches a method for a "passive, user-active, event-centric" application. Throughout Abstract, Claims, Specifications, and Drawings of this invention, it is repeatedly emphasized that the invention is a "passive, user-active, event-centric" application.

The current invention's Abstract (page 29) recites: "The present invention relates to method and system for implementing a web-based, passive, user-active, event-centric event planner application for a club." The current invention's Specification [0002] (page 1) recites: "The present invention is in the field of computer based event planning, and

more particularly, a web-based, passive, user-active, event-centric system and method for a group of people belonging to a club, which maintains and updates event information and member attribute." The current invention's Specification [0011] (page 5) recites: "It is an object of the invention to provide a system and method for providing access to a web site through an URL (Universal Resource Locator), which allows the members 30 to enter a web based, passive, user-active, event-centric application (emphasis added) and view or update information related to a club." The current invention's Specification [0046] (page 11) recites: "In general, the present invention is a web-based, passive, user-active, event-centric method and system for planning an event (emphasis added). The planning of an event includes creating, accessing and maintaining of an information center for schedule of events for a club or group."

A-2. Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach a "passive, user-active, event-centric" application:

Lofton's ABSTRACT recites: "A system and method for scheduling providing an Internet-based calendar (emphasis added) for use by a number of people, where each user has a personal calendar (emphasis added) which is associated with the user through user identification data to permit users to automatically receive updates of events (emphasis added) which have been posted by one or more other users to appear on the receiving user's calendar, (emphasis added) with each user being able to post

events on the user's own calendar and delete events on the user's own calendar

(emphasis added) whether or not the event to be deleted has been posted by another user or the deleting user."

A-3. SUMMARY: a "passive, user-active, event-centric" application:

As demonstrated above in section A-1, the current invention teaches a "**passive, user-active, event-centric**" application. Additionally, as demonstrated above in section A-2, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach or suggest the basic function of embodiments of the present invention, being a "**passive, user-active, event-centric**" application. Contrary to the teachings of the current invention, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] teaches a system that can be described as "**active**" (sends notifications; updates, and reminders to members), partly "**user-passive**" (members can wait to receive notifications, updates, and reminders from application), and "**personal calendar-centric**" (all activities being centered around members' personal calendars). Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in the condition for allowance since Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach or suggest the basic function of embodiments of the present invention, and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

A-4. The current invention teaches a "passive" application:

Claim 1 of the current invention teaches a system and claim 5 of the current invention teaches a method for a "passive" application since the application does not play any role in creating or updating club's events, does not play any role in creating or updating members' involvement in the club's events, and does not send notifications, updates, or reminders to members.

Independent claim 1 of the current invention recites:

A system for web-based, passive, user-active, event-centric application comprising:

a database and an application on a web server,

wherein the database is a repository of information on a) a club, b) an event for the club, c) a member attribute for a member of the club, wherein the event is managed by the member;

means for accessing the information on the event, the access being limited to the member; and

means for updating the information on the event by the member;

wherein the application not involving monitoring the information for the event (emphasis added).

Independent claim 5 of the current invention recites:

A method for web-based, passive, user-active, event-centric application comprising:

creating a database on a web server wherein the database is a repository of information on a) a club, b) an event for the club, and c) a member attribute for a member of the club, wherein the event is managed by the member;

accessing the information on the event, wherein the access is limited to the member; and

updating the information on the event by the member;

wherein the application not involving monitoring the information for the event (emphasis added).

The current invention's Specification [0072] (page 23) recites: "The system, in the present invention, is passive in a way that it provides a medium in which a number of people come together to form a group or club. It does not manage events, send invitations to the members 30, send notifications to the members 30, expect reply or acknowledgement from its members 30 and hence summarize the members' 30 responses, check or store members' 30 availability, provide or keep public or private

calendars for members 30, or send files or forms to members 30 (emphasis added)."

The current invention's Specification [0016] (page 6) recites: "It is an additional object of the invention to provide an environment where the system does not involve creating or maintaining members' 30 calendars, check or store members' 30 availability or send files, notifications or invitations to members 30 (emphasis added)." The current invention's Specification [0019] (pages 6-7) recites: "There are no email invitations or electronic forms to send (emphasis added), as a result of which the responses need not have to be summarized, and the administrator 31 does not have to notify members 30." The current invention's Specification [0070] (page 22) recites: "The administrator 31 does not monitor members' 30 participation, their contribution, or their availability. It is left to individual members 30 to access the web site and choose to participate or to contribute or to not participate/contribute to the event."

Throughout claims, specifications, and abstract of the current invention, there is no reference to any active role of the application. The present invention is very specific and clear that no action is taken for a user by the application.

A-5. Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach a "passive" application:

Contrary to the teaching of the current invention, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] teaches over and over the active role his system plays. Lofton

emphasizes an active system by teaching a system that sends notifications, updates of events, and reminders to members:

Lofton's ABSTRACT recites: "A system and method for scheduling providing an Internet-based calendar for use by a number of people, where each user has a personal calendar which is associated with the user through user identification data , such as, for example, a user's e-mail address, is provided. The system and method permit users to automatically receive updates of events (emphasis added) which appear on the user's calendar. The user, in addition to events posted by other users which appear on the user's calendar (emphasis added), may add the user's own events, and can even delete events from the user's calendar." Lofton Specifications 1, (page 1) recites: "The field of the invention relates to calendars for scheduling events, and in particular, to an Internet-based calendar system and method for notifying users (emphasis added) of their own scheduled events and events scheduled by others which are pertinent to them." Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 4) recites: "A system and method for scheduling events, providing an Internet-based calendar for use by a number of people to schedule events and reminders (emphasis added), where each user has a personal calendar which is associated with the user through user identification data, such as, for example, a user's e-mail address, is provided. The system and method permit users to automatically receive updates of events (emphasis

added) which appear on the user's calendar." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 9) recites: "Fig. 14 is an illustration of an example of a screen display showing options for distribution list (emphasis added) management." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 13) recites: "In accordance with a second preferred embodiment, the self-posting means may comprise notification means for notifying a user of an event (emphasis added) which the user posts to only appear to his or her own calendar." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 13) recites: "Event notification means is provided for notifying a user who is an intended recipient of a posted event (emphasis added). The posting user can elect whether the posted event should be noticed to intended users. The notification means may comprise a mechanism for sending electronic messages to users (emphasis added)." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 14) recites: "For example, the event notification means may be coordinated to communicate immediate notification via e-mail, or telephone messaging, to the intended user recipient as soon as the event is posted (emphasis added), or for example, can be set to issue the notification at a particular time interval, such as hourly, daily, etc., or both (emphasis added)." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 19) recites: "Event data which preferably includes information

about an event, such as that shown in Table 2 is stored for each event to facilitate notifying one or more users by displaying event data on the calendar of each user who is an intended recipient of the event notification (emphasis added).” Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 23) recites: “In Fig. 1, a new user desires to sign on to the system as a new member in order to participate in the notification (emphasis added) and calendar.” Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 26) recites: “The user or users who are to receive the notice of the event (emphasis added) are designated when Member A inputs the email address of each user who is to receive the notification (emphasis added).” Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 33) recites: “Optionally, event notification means may be provided where a user who is the intended recipient of a posted event receives notification, even if the user does not access the users calendar (emphasis added). Such event notification means can, for example, comprise an associated e-mail message sent to the intended recipient user notifying that user that there has been a new event posted to that user’s calendar (emphasis added).” Lofton EXAMPLE 1, (page 35) recites: “The distribution list facilitates the identification of recipients of the event notification (emphasis added), since once the coach has established the list, several users can be selected at once.” Lofton EXAMPLE 3, (pages 37) recites: “members

of an organization or club, and are given notice of club events (emphasis added).” Lofton EXAMPLE 3, (page 37) recites: “members of an organization or club, and are given notice of club events (emphasis added).” Lofton EXAMPLE 3, (page 38) recites: “The designated user, when accessing his or her personal calendar, receives the notification of the tee-time (emphasis added).” Lofton EXAMPLE 3, (page 38) recites: “The event notification system, in this example, facilitates parental notification of children’s events (emphasis added)” Lofton EXAMPLE 4, (page 38) recites: “and can view event data for events which Sister A has been designated to receive (emphasis added).” Lofton EXAMPLE 6, (page 40) recites: “Player A has a course attendee who is to receive event notification (emphasis added) data of the course schedule of classes.” Lofton DRAWINGS Fig. 12 specifies one of the options for Schedule Display as “Enable reminder email?” Lofton DRAWINGS Fig. 14 recites: “Use this screen to manage your distribution lists. These distribution lists allow you to post events to any number of schedules at one time.”

A-6. SUMMARY: a “passive” application:

As demonstrated above in section A-4, the current invention teaches a “passive” application. Additionally, as demonstrated above in section A-5, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach or suggest the basic function of embodiments of the present invention, being a “passive” application. Contrary to the teachings of the

current invention, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] teaches a system that can be described as "active" by sending notifications, updates, and reminders to members. Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in the condition for allowance since Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach or suggest the basic function of embodiments of the present invention, and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

A-7. The current invention teaches a "user-active" application:

Claim 1 of the current invention teaches a system and claim 5 of the current invention teaches a method for a "user-active" application since active steps are taken by a member on behalf of himself / herself only, as how the member wants to be involved in the club's events. The present invention teaches that members can create or update events of the club and members can create or update own involvement in the events of the club. The present invention is very specific and clear that no action such as involvement in the club's events is taken for a user by the application. The present invention also teaches that the system is "user-active" since the user must logon to the application to view information about the events and own and other members' involvement in the events. **The user is not identified by the application.**

Independent claim 1 of the current invention recites:

A system for web-based, passive, user-active (emphasis added),
event-centric application comprising:

a database and an application on a web server,

wherein the database is a repository of information on a) a club, b) an
event for the club, c) a member attribute for a member of the club,

wherein the event is managed by the member;

means for accessing the information on the event, the access being
limited to the member; and

means for updating the information on the event by the member
(emphasis added);

wherein the application not involving monitoring the information for the
event.

Independent claim 5 of the current invention recites:

A method for web-based, passive, user-active (emphasis added),
event-centric application comprising:

creating a database on a web server wherein the database is a repository
of information on a) a club, b) an event for the club, and c) a member

attribute for a member of the club, wherein the event is managed by the member;

accessing the information on the event, wherein the access is limited to the member; and

updating the information on the event by the member (emphasis added);

wherein the application not involving monitoring the information for the event.

The current invention's Specification [0073] (page 23) recites: "The system of the present invention is User-active and lets individual members 30 take the responsibility of signing into the web-site and checking the scheduled events and decide on their participation/contribution (emphasis added)." The current invention's Specification [0019] (page 7) recites: "Members 30 go to the web site to get information about the club, the event and the list of members 30 involved in the club (emphasis added)." The current invention's Specification [0070] (page 22) recites: "It is left to individual members 30 to access the web site and choose to participate or to contribute or to not participate/contribute to the event (emphasis added)." The current invention's Specification [0011] (page 5) recites: "It is an object of the invention to

provide a system and method for providing access to a web site through an URL (Universal Resource Locator), which allows the members 30 to enter a web based, passive, user-active, event-centric application and view or update information related to a club (emphasis added).” The current invention’s Specification [0012] (page 5) recites: “ It is an additional object of the invention to provide an environment for a member 30 to independently access and view the details of the event and a list of other members 30 included for the event and to make a choice regarding participation in the event (emphasis added).” The current invention’s Specification [0018] (page 6) recites: “The system also provides the members 30 of the club means to update their own profile and modify the attribute for a particular event.” The current invention’s Specification [0025] (page 7) recites: “Figure 5 is a flowchart illustrating the steps used by a member 30 to access and update member’s 30 own involvement in the event (emphasis added).” The current invention’s Specification [0049] (page 13) recites: “The members 30 have the ability to view and update their own profile, and their own involvement and participation in the scheduled events (emphasis added).” The current invention’s Specification [0045] (pages 10-11) recites: “The present invention is an event planner comprising an event database 11 wherein the event database 11 provides information regarding the event to a selected audience or club. The information in the event database 11 comprises the schedule, location and agenda of the

event. The information in the event database 11 also comprises names of members 30 of the selected audience who accept, deny or have not responded to the event and all members 30 of the selected audience can view the names of the members 30 who accept, deny, or have not responded to the event in the event database 11 (emphasis added). In addition to the event information, the event database 11 also comprises other related information about the selected audience. The event database 11 is accessed by the selected audience using the World Wide Web (the Internet 20) and access is validated by using password protection." The current invention's Specification [0064] (page 20) recites: "When a member 30 selects the "Details" button corresponding to a specific event on the Main page, the details of that specific event (agenda) along with the attendance list for that specific event are displayed to the member 30 as illustrated in Figure 12. The member 30 has the option of specifying how he/she wants to contribute to the event and how he/she wants to participate. The flowchart for the steps taken by the member 30 to update the member's 30 involvement is as shown in Figure 5. The member 30 can contribute, for example, by volunteering to give a speech or by choosing to be an evaluator for another member's 30 speech (emphasis added). The member 30 can also choose his/her own status of attendance for the event in one of two ways - i) By basing on the list of other members' 30 participation and contribution to the event or ii) Irrespective of the list of other members' 30 decisions

to participate and contribute to the event. The values that the attendance status can take, in this embodiment, for example, are "Will Attend", "Will Not Attend" and "Is Undecided". The member 30 makes his/her choice of participating in a particular event by selecting one of the 3 radio buttons or similar user interface mechanisms to receive user responses – Will attend, Will Not attend, Is Undecided. The event database 11 is updated when the screen is saved. In this system and method, the member 30 has the responsibility to initiate participating in the event."

A-8. Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach a "user-active" application:

Contrary to the teaching of the current invention, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] teaches an "application-active, user-passive, personal calendar-centric" system where a member's involvement in the club can be determined by the application and that the user can stay passive to be notified by the system of events' status:

Lofton ABSTRACT recites: "A system and method for scheduling providing an Internet-based calendar for use by a number of people, where each user has a personal calendar which is associated with the user through user identification data to permit users to automatically receive updates of events which have been posted by one or more other users to appear on the receiving user's calendar (emphasis added), with each user being able to post events on the user's own calendar and delete events on the

user's own calendar whether or not the event to be deleted has been posted by another user or the deleting user." Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 6) recites: "Upon logging onto the system, user may select, as an option, to have the user's calendar displayed with events placed on the system for the user by another user (emphasis added)." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 8) recites: "FIG. 2 is a schematic drawing of a diagram of a system and method for scheduling events on an Internet-based calendar, illustrating an example of the automatic creation of a new schedule by an existing user for a new user (emphasis added)." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 8) recites: "FIG. 6 is an illustration of an example of a screen display showing options for posting of an event by a user on the system to the calendars of that user or other users (emphasis added)." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 12) recites: "Likewise, the user may post an event to the calendars of one or more other users (emphasis added) without posting the event to the user's calendar." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 25) recites: "Referring to FIG. 2, there is illustrated a schematic diagram of a system and method for scheduling events on an Internet-based calendar, illustrating an example of the automatic creation of a new schedule by an existing user for a new user. (emphasis added)" Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE

PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 26) recites: "In this example, Member A selects the option button "post event to other's schedules" (emphasis added)." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 27) recites: "A user may post an event to several users of the system (emphasis added)." Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 7) recites: "The system and method of the present invention has particular utility for parents in connection with maintaining a schedule of their children's activities (emphasis added)." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 21) recites: "Table 8 illustrates user data, and in particular access data for permitting a user to access the calendar of another user (emphasis added) (emphasis added)." Lofton REMARKS, Reply to Office Action, dated Aug 24, 2006 (page 10), distinguishing his system from Berenson's, recites: "Applicant's invention, on the other hand, provides a system where a user using the Applicant's system may generate an event message without the user having to go to each web site (emphasis added), or find each location from which the event comes." Lofton REMARKS, Reply to Office Action, dated Aug 24, 2006 (page 10), distinguishing his system from Berenson's, recites: "In Applicant's system, the event data is designed to come to the user (emphasis added)." Lofton REMARKS, Reply to Office Action, dated Aug 24, 2006 (page 10) recites: "Applicant provides the user with a calendar which a calendar which not only is capable of being populated with the

user's personal data, but also may receive event data and be populated with that data as well (emphasis added)."

A-9. SUMMARY: a "user-active" application:

As demonstrated above in section A-1, the current invention teaches a "user-active" application. Additionally, as demonstrated above in section A-2, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach or suggest the basic function of embodiments of the present invention, being a "user-active" application. Contrary to the teachings of the current invention, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] teaches a system that can be described as "user-passive" since members can have events posted to their calendar by other members and can wait passively to receive notifications, updates, and reminders from application. Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in the condition for allowance since Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach or suggest the basic function of embodiments of the present invention, and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

A-10. The current invention teaches an "event-centric" application:

Claim 1 of the present invention teaches an "event-centric" system and claim 5 of the present invention teaches an "event-centric" method since all activities are centered around the club's events rather than the member. The present invention

teaches that members, aside from updating own profile, can create or update own involvement only in the club's events. The present invention is very specific and clear that the system and method are not about members' personal calendars and schedules. In fact, the application does not provide any means for members to create and maintain own or other members' calendars.

Independent claim 1 of the current invention recites:

A system for web-based, passive, user-active, event-centric (emphasis added) application comprising:

a database and an application on a web server,

wherein the database is a repository of information on a) a club, b) an event for the club, c) a member attribute for a member of the club, wherein the event (emphasis added) is managed by the member;

means for accessing the information on the event (emphasis added), the access being limited to the member; and

means for updating the information on the event (emphasis added) by the member;

wherein the application not involving monitoring the information for the event (emphasis added).

Independent claim 5 of the current invention recites:

A method for web-based, passive, user-active, event-centric (emphasis added) application comprising:

creating a database on a web server wherein the database is a repository of information on a) a club, b) an event for the club (emphasis added), and c) a member attribute for a member of the club, wherein the event (emphasis added) is managed by the member;

accessing the information on the event (emphasis added), wherein the access is limited to the member; and

updating the information on the event (emphasis added) by the member;

wherein the application not involving monitoring the information for the event (emphasis added).

The current invention's Specification [0074] (page 23) recites: "It is event-centric since the web-site revolves around events, schedule of events, members 30 related to events and members' 30 participation and contribution to the events (emphasis

added)." The current invention's Specification [0012] (page 5) recites: "It is an additional object of the invention to provide an environment for a member 30 to independently access and view the details of the event and a list of other members 30 included for the event and to make a choice regarding participation in the event (emphasis added)." The current invention's Specification [0025] (page 7) recites: "Figure 5 is a flowchart illustrating the steps used by a member 30 to access and update member's 30 own involvement in the event (emphasis added)." The current invention's Specification [0032] (page 8) recites: "Figure 12 illustrates a screen with the details of a specific schedule of an event and list of attendees for the particular event accessed by the member 30 when the Details button is selected on the Main page for a scheduled event." The current invention's Specification [0033] (page 8) recites: "Figure 13 illustrates the Agenda screen (event information) when the Print Agenda button is selected on Figure 12." The current invention's Specification [0034] (page 9) recites: "Figure 14 illustrates the Attendance List screen when the Print Attendance button is selected on Figure 12." The current invention's Specification [0045] (pages 10-11) recites: "The present invention is an event planner comprising an event database 11 wherein the event database 11 provides information regarding the event to a selected audience or club (emphasis added). The information in the event database 11 comprises the schedule, location and agenda of the event. The information in the event database 11

also comprises names of members 30 of the selected audience who accept, deny or have not responded to the event and all members 30 of the selected audience can view the names of the members 30 who accept, deny, or have not responded to the event in the event database 11. In addition to the event information, the event database 11 also comprises other related information about the selected audience." Additionally, the current invention repeatedly mentions and describes an "event database" emphasizing events as the center of all activities: Specifications [0045] pages 10-11 recites: "The present invention is an event planner (emphasis added) comprising an event database 11 (emphasis added) wherein the event database 11 provides information regarding the event to a selected audience or club (emphasis added). The information in the event database 11 comprises the schedule, location and agenda of the event (emphasis added)." Also see: [0047] page 11, [0048] page 12, [0049] page 13, [0050] page 13, [0053] page 14, [0055] page 16, [0057] page 16, [0058] page 17, [0059] page 17, [0060] page 18, [0061] page 18, [0062] page 19, [0064] page 20, [0066] page 21, [0068] page 21. The "event-centric" nature of the current invention is apparent in Figure 11 of Drawings: when a member logs in, the schedule of the events of the club is displayed. When a member clicks on the "Detail" button of a specific schedule, the Meeting Agenda and participating member list of the event are displayed (Figure 12). Other menu options allow members to view club information and view/update own profile.

A-11. Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach an "event-centric" application:

Contrary to the teaching of the current invention, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] teaches over and over a system that can be identified as a **Personal Calendar-Centric**. Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] repeatedly asserts terms "**user's calendar**", "**personal calendar**", "**hierarchical calendar**", and "**private events**". Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] provides means for members to create and maintain personal calendar and emphasizes activities applied to the personal calendar of members: :

Lofton's ABSTRACT recites: "A system and method for scheduling providing an **Internet-based calendar** (emphasis added) for use by a number of people, where each user has a **personal calendar** (emphasis added) which is associated with the user through user identification data to permit users to automatically receive updates of events which have been posted by one or more other users **to appear on the receiving user's calendar**, (emphasis added) with each user being able to **post events on the user's own calendar and delete events on the user's own calendar** (emphasis added) whether or not the event to be deleted has been posted by another user or the deleting user." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 4) recites: "A need still exists for a **calendar system** (emphasis added) which is easy to operate, and can handle the needs of families including parents, children, their friends and associates, as well as **handle the personal events** (emphasis added) of a user including

a user's private events (emphasis added), and events of organizations and groups." Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 6) recites: "Upon logging onto the system, user may select, as an option, to have the user's calendar (emphasis added) displayed ...". Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 6) recites: "And events placed on the system for the user by another user." Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 6) recites: "The user can choose to leave an event on his calendar (emphasis added) or can delete an event." Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 6) recites: "Provides for the control of a user's calendar ..." (emphasis added). Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 6) recites: "Permit a user to selectively allow one or more other users to view the permitting user's calendar (emphasis added)." Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (pages 6-7) recites: "That is, when the user posts a private event on that user's personal calendar (emphasis added)." Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 7) recites: "An event may appear on the user's personal calendar (emphasis added) ...". Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 7) recites: "Maintaining a schedule of their children's activities (emphasis added) ...". Lofton SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, (page 7) recites: "A hierarchical level calendar (emphasis added) which includes the parent's events as well as the events of the children (emphasis added)." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 8) recites: "Fig. 6 is an illustration of an example of a

screen display showing options for posting of an event by a user on the system to the calendars of that user or other users (emphasis added)." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 8) recites: "Fig. 8 is an illustration of an example of a screen display identifying shared access to a user's calendar (emphasis added)." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 9) recites: "Fig. 10 is an illustration of an example of a screen display of a calendar schedule view for a user of the system." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 9) recites: "Fig. 12 is an illustration of an example of a screen display showing viewing options for a user's calendar (emphasis added)." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 9) recites: "Fig. 13 is an illustration of an example of a screen display showing viewing options for a user's calendar (emphasis added), wherein a start date for the calendar display may be specified." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 9) recites: "Fig. 17 is an illustration of an example of a screen display showing viewing options for posting of an event by a user on the system to the calendar of the user (emphasis added)." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 12) recites: "The system further has self-posting (emphasis added) means for permitting the user posting the event to elect to receive the event on the posting user's calendar. The self-posting means provides the user with the ability to post the event to the user's

calendar (emphasis added), whether or not the user is posting to calendar's of other users." DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 12) recites: "Likewise, the user may post an event to the calendars of one or more users (emphasis added) without posting the event to the user's calendar (emphasis added)." DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (pages 15-16) recites: "When the pointer is present, it associates the global event record with the user's event data, so that the event appears on the user's personal calendar (emphasis added)." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 21) recites: "Table 8 illustrates user data, and in particular access data for permitting a user to access the calendar of another user (emphasis added)." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 24) recites: "For example, the user's sub-file may contain information as how the user desires that user's calendar to be displayed (emphasis added)." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 28) recites: "Sharing control means may facilitate sharing of a user's calendar or schedule with one or more other users (emphasis added) of the system." Lofton teaches a system providing private events as in DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 28) recites: "In conjunction with the sharing control means, privacy designation means is preferably provided for enabling the user, when posting an event, to specify that an

event is to be private (emphasis added). When the user designates an event as a private event (emphasis added), the event data for that event is not shared or viewable by those other users, even if they had been given access to the schedule of the user posting the private event (emphasis added). A privacy field is supplied for a user entering event information, such as, for example, as shown in the screen display illustrated in FIG. 6." Lofton teaches a system providing members' own schedule as in DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 29) recites: "FIG. 3 illustrates a printout of a screen display illustrating the method and system of the invention. In FIG. 3, a first screen or home page is shown displaying thereon options which the user can select. The option buttons are shown featuring the following:

Quick view of your schedule (emphasis added)

Custom view of your schedule (emphasis added)

Create a new schedule

Access your schedule (emphasis added)

View another's schedule (emphasis added)"

Lofton teaches a system providing members' own schedule and accessing and posting to own and others' schedules as in DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED

EMBODIMENTS, (page 30) recites: "FIG. 5 illustrates a view of a screen presenting additional options to the user of the system. For example, the button shown permits the user to post an event to the user's schedule, or to post an event to other's schedules.

Other options appearing on the screen include:

Post event to my schedule (emphasis added)

Set my schedule(emphasis added) preferences

Control access to my schedule(emphasis added)

Modify my user profile

View my schedule (emphasis added)

Post event to other's schedules (emphasis added)

Configure my distribution lists

Change my password

Update alias names

Configure web pages"

Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 21) recites: "Referring now to FIG. 6, there is illustrated a screen which can be accessed by a user of the system to post an event to the schedules of other users (emphasis added)."

Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 32) recites: "FIG. 17 shows an example of a screen display which contains fields for event data which a user enters for information about an event to be posted to the user's own calendar or schedule (emphasis added). This screen is similar to the screen display shown in FIG. 6 where event data is entered and is posted to calendars of other users (emphasis added), except that the recipient is automatically designated as the user, and there are no other fields to designate other users to receive the event. In addition, the event posted to the user's calendar (emphasis added) may be facilitated by the alias means so that regardless of which user associated e-mail address the user signs on with, the event is posted to that user's calendar (emphasis added). Therefore, the event data is not shared by this posting and remains the posting user's own event. However, even though the event is posted only on the user's calendar (emphasis added), if the user has elected to share his calendar with others, the event is also visible to those viewing the user's calendar. The option of making the event private can be selected by the user to make the user-posted event to the user's own calendar (emphasis added) inaccessible to other users, even those users who are permitted to otherwise share (i.e.,

view) the user's calendar (emphasis added)." Lofton DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS, (page 33) recites: "Optionally, event notification means may be provided where a user who is the intended recipient of a posted event receives notification, even if the user does not access the users calendar (emphasis added). Such event notification means can, for example, comprise an associated e-mail message sent to the intended recipient user notifying that user that there has been a new event posted to that user's calendar (emphasis added). Optionally, or alternately, a telephone message may be transmitted to a user's telephone number to transmit a voice message indicating that there is an event that has been posted on that user's calendar (emphasis added). A user also may have the option to turn off the telephone or e-mail notification, and may select this option when signing up or when modifying that user's information." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (pages 36-37) recites: "Player A, as a user of the system, has options available for managing and maintaining her calendar (emphasis added). For example, Player A wishes to add an event for her school band practice. Player A can post an event to her personal calendar (emphasis added), indicating the event data, such as, in this example, on January 12^{sup}.th, 4:00 p.m., band practice, at the school gym. Player A also sees that the coach of the soccer team has scheduled a practice for the same day and time. Player A knows she will not attend practice, so Player A deletes the coach's scheduled practice event

data from her personal calendar (emphasis added). In this example, the event data for the practice schedule, although posted by the coach and sent to all of the members of the team, has been deleted from the user, Player A's user data file." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 39) recites: "In this example, Friend C's birthday was entered on Player A's calendar (emphasis added) in connection with the posting of an event, i.e., Friend C's birthday party." Lofton BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES, (page 39) recites: "Player A's calendar (emphasis added), in Example 1, has been populated with events which were input with Player A being designated with Player A's school e-mail address." Lofton DRAWINGS Fig. 8 recites: "Use the screen to control who can view the contents of your schedule (emphasis added)." Lofton DRAWINGS Fig. 17 recites: "Use the screen to post an event to your own schedule (emphasis added)." Lofton DRAWINGS Fig. 3 and Fig. 5 show menu options indicating users' own schedules. Lofton repeatedly talks about different aspects of a user's calendar of the schedule his system provides. This feature, that centers around members calendars, contradicts our claim of "event-centric", meaning that the present invention centers around the club's events, not personal schedule of the members. Lofton REMARKS, Reply to Office Action, dated Aug 24, 2006 (page 10) recites: "Applicant provides the user with a calendar which a calendar which not only is capable of being populated with the user's personal data,

but also may receive event data and be populated with that data as well (emphasis added)."

A-12 SUMMARY: a "event-centric" application:

As demonstrated above in section A-10, the current invention teaches an "event-centric" application. Additionally, as demonstrated above in section A-11, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach or suggest the basic function of embodiments of the present invention, being a "event-centric" application. Contrary to the teachings of the current invention, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] teaches a system that can be described as "personal calendar-centric" since he teaches a system and method with embodiments of "plurality of calendars", "hierarchical calendars", "personal calendars", "private calendars", and "users' calendars". Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in the condition for allowance since Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach or suggest the basic function of embodiments of the present invention, and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

A-13. The 102(e) Rejection over Lofton should be withdrawn:

In respect to item 5 of page 2 and item 9 of page 3 of the Office Action, stating that Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] anticipated independent claims 1 and 5 of the current invention, Applicants believe they have responded to these issues in A-1 through A-12

above. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable, and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested. In respect to items 6, 7, and 8 of page 3 and items 11, 12, 13 of page 4 of the Office Action, stating that Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] anticipated dependent claims 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, and 9 of the current invention, Applicants do not claim to have invented these notions. Instead, the notion is used as an efficient means to describe the strategy in the current invention, accessing to view, update, or add information to a "passive, user-active, event centric" application. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable, and allowance of these claims in conjunction with claims 1 and 5 is respectfully requested.

B. The 103(a) Rejection over Lofton should be withdrawn:

Claims 10-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116]. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons which follow:

The item 16 in page of the Office Action recites: "As to claims 10-18, while Lofton disclosed MyiSchedule home page having a plurality of screens for automatically created schedule for a new member, for accessing and creating the schedule via Internet, for modifying information of an existing schedule, for posting events to your own schedule or schedulers of others, for configuring the schedule preferences, setting up member distribution list, setting the access of member schedule by others,

controlling who can view the contents of the schedule, changing password, etc., Lofton might not explicitly mention or detail as claimed language.” (emphasis added)

All emphasized sections of item 16 in page 5 as describing Lofton’s system to reject the current invention based on obviousness **DO NOT APPLY TO THE CURRENT INVENTION**. Furthermore, to establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). "All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." In re Wilson, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970). If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious. In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). MPEP 2143 -To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not in applicant's disclosure. In re Vaeck, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

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Dependent claims 10-18 include all of the limitations of their respective independent claims and should be considered in combination with their respective independent claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that these dependent claims should be patentable for at least the reasons that their respective independent claims 1 and 5 should be patentable.

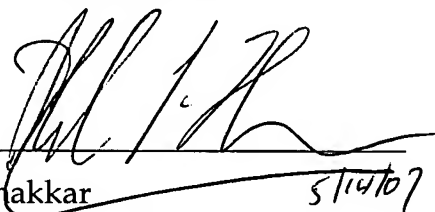
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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that reference Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not teach or suggest, among other things, a "passive, user-active, event-centric application" (emphasis added) as recited by independent claims 1 and 5 and dependent claims 2-4 and 7-19. Furthermore, Lofton [Pub. No. 2003/0154116] does not anticipate the current invention in its entirety. In view of remarks and arguments presented above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5 and 7-19 overcome the rejections of record. For reasons discussed herein, Applicants respectfully requests that these claims be reconsidered and allowed by the examiner.

If the examiner upon considering this amendment should find that a telephone interview would be helpful in expediting allowance of the present application, the examiner is respectfully urged to call the undersigned Applicants at the phone numbers listed below, or preferably, to request a meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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